

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283
Phone: (217)492-4295
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
<http://www.state.il.us/agr/agstats.htm>

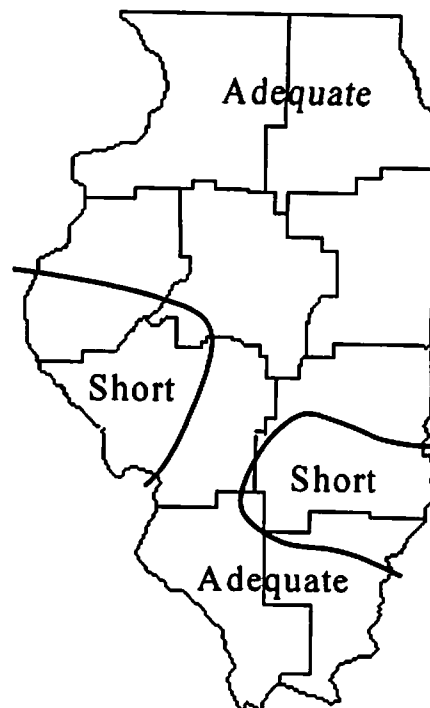
RELEASED: October 20, 1997 3 P.M., CT
VOL. 18, NO. 34

Light rain across the state Monday delayed fieldwork only slightly with harvest back in full swing by Wednesday. Most farmers switched to corn harvest last week and the near ideal fall conditions allowed 31 percent of the corn crop to be brought in from the fields last week. This is a record corn harvest pace for this week since records began in 1975. The first killing frost occurred across most of northern Illinois last week with lighter frosts common in many areas of the state. The past few week's warm dry weather has greatly aided the maturing crops and last week's frost will only help the corn crop to continue drying down. Most reporters continue to express concern regarding yield loss in corn due to corn borer. With the favorable dry weather, though, farmers have been able to harvest earlier avoiding some field loss and still harvest a relatively dry crop. The state's winter wheat crop continues to be sown at a near record pace, and aided by last week's rainfall, emergence is at a record level of 45 percent as of October 19. Other activities last week included fall tillage, dry fertilizer application, machinery maintenance and anhydrous ammonia application.

Crop Progress

Crop Stage	: 1997	: 1996	: 5-Year Average

October 19			
CORN:			
Mature	98	93	97
Harvested	59	33	42
SOYBEANS:			
Shedding leaves	99	96	99
Harvested	89	56	78
WINTER WHEAT:			
Seeded	85	53	66
Emerged	45	20	27
SORGHUM:			
Mature	95	90	90
Harvested	52	17	36



**Topsoil Moisture
October 17**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	-	2	25	66	7
Pasture	4	16	43	35	2

Illinois

Date	1987 (%)	5-Yr Avg (%)	1988 (%)
Aug 31	0	0	0
Sep 7	0	0	0
Sep 14	0	0	0
Sep 21	2	1	0
Sep 28	10	5	2
Oct 5	45	30	15
Oct 12	80	60	30
Oct 19	88	75	55
Oct 26	-	85	70
Nov 2	-	92	85
Nov 9	-	95	90
Nov 16	-	97	95
Nov 23	-	98	98
Nov 30	-	99	99

Illinois

Year	Percentage
1997	89
1996	56
1995	88
1994	86
1993	76
1992	82
1991	93
1990	51
1989	85
1988	92
1987	96

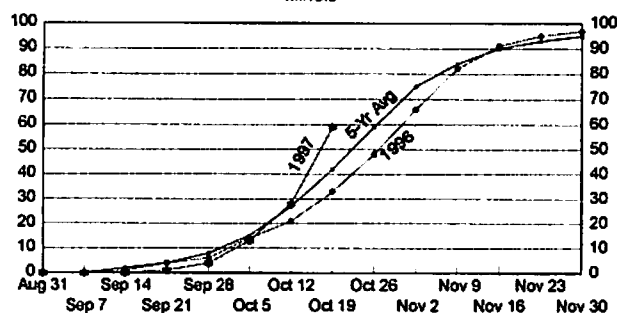
As of October 19

District	Days Suitable	Topsoil Moisture			
	for				
	Fieldwork	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	October 11 - 17		October 17		
Northwest	6.1	2	43	55	-
Northeast	6.0	-	44	56	-
West	6.6	20	31	49	-
Central	6.1	8	37	55	-
East	5.8	6	29	63	2
W Southwest	6.0	2	42	56	-
E Southeast	6.0	3	40	57	-
Southwest	5.3	2	36	62	-
Southeast	6.3	2	59	38	1
State	6.0	5	40	55	-

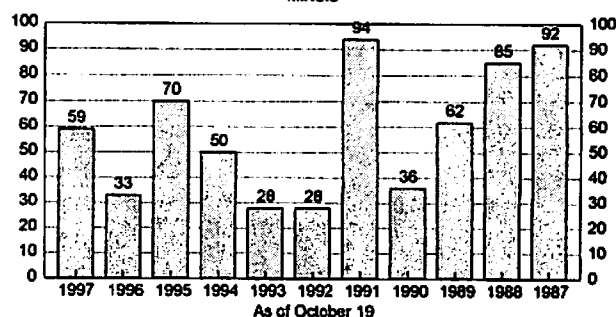
Crop Progress by District

	:	Corn	:	Soybeans
District	:			
	:	Harvested	:	Harvested
	:	October 19		
Northwest	:	40		90
Northeast	:	17		88
West	:	64		88
Central	:	74		95
East	:	72		99
W Southwest	:	78		91
E Southeast	:	60		88
Southwest	:	77		78
Southeast	:	57		66
State	:	59		89

Corn - Percent Harvested
Illinois



Corn - Percent Harvested
Illinois



Temperature and Precipitation

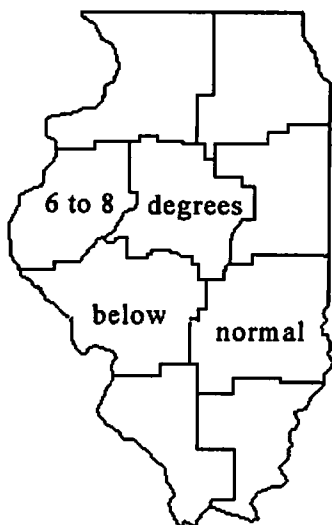
District	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Average	Normal	Departure	Total	Normal	Departure
October 13 - 19						
Northwest	46.4	53.2	- 6.9	.52	.74	- .21
Northeast	46.7	53.4	- 6.8	.56	.76	- .20
West	48.8	55.8	- 7.0	.47	.67	- .20
Central	48.4	55.3	- 6.9	.56	.70	- .14
East	47.6	54.8	- 7.2	.52	.67	- .16
W Southwest	49.7	56.7	- 7.0	.58	.70	- .12
E Southeast	49.8	56.7	- 6.9	.65	.68	- .04
Southwest	50.8	58.2	- 7.3	.73	.73	.00
Southeast	51.4	58.4	- 7.0	.78	.75	.03
State	48.7	55.7	- 7.0	.59	.71	- .12

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

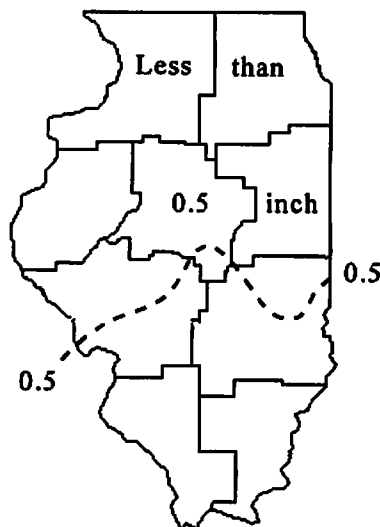
Illinois Weather & Crops
October 20, 1997

Illinois Weather & Crops (ISSN 0273-8635) is published weekly April-November, semimonthly in January, and monthly in December, February and March, by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62702. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Periodical postage paid at Springfield, Illinois. Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Weather & Crops, P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283.

Data and maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey, Department of Natural Resources, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, Il. 61820, (217)244-8226.



Temperature Departure
October 13 - 19



Precipitation Total
October 13 - 19

Crop PROGRESS INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by local area officials of Farm Service Agency, Extension Service, National Resources Conservation Service, Farm Business Farm Management field staff, and agribusiness managers.

"Printed by authority of the State of Illinois" 10/20/97, 2,200, 1444